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SOURCE Hospodar.

#### CROP-PURCHASE PROGRAM LAGS

SABOTAGE ONE CAUSE -- Hospodar, No 52, 29 Dec 49

The period in which farmers were supposed to have fulfilled their delivery agreements and delivered their grain quotas ended on 24 December 1949. The purchase program, however, continues.

The 1949 harvest was at least average. However, despite the fact that the 1949 grain quantity based on agreements was much lower than that of 1948, the 1948 level had not been reached by mid-December 1949 either in relative or absolute figures.

Agreements concluded and quotas assigned amounted to 47,793 carloads of wheat and 50,288 carloads of rye in the Czech Provinces in 1949. By 24 December, however, this plan was fulfilled only 83 percent in wheat and 99 percent in rye. In view of the fact that only the most essential amounts of bread grains were contracted for, less than in other summers, that all necessary arrangements had been made for control of the field work and threshing of the grains, that the 1949 crop was better than average, that the purchase program was exclusively in the hands of cooperatives, and that the determination of the delivery tasks was exclusively in the hands of the people's organizations, the results of the grain-purchase program are considerably unsatisfactory.

In the case of barley and oats, the assigned and contracted amounts were in conflict with the plan of animal production, the intensity of which cannot be restricted in the interests of plant production.

In 1948, the purchase of wheat by Christmas exceeded the 1949 purchase by 4,151 carloads. The rye purchase was at the same level as in 1948.

In Slovakia, the 1948 purchases were not so satisfactory as the 1949 purchases. By Christmas of 1948, 11,161 carloads of wheat had been purchased there, but in 1949, 14,944 carloads were already purchased, so that the plan was fulfilled by 92 percent, although it was higher than the 1948 plan. The

- 1 -

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rye situation is even more favorable. Whereas 2,661 carloads of rye had been purchased in 1948, 2,735 carloads were already purchased in 1949, so that the plan for rye purchase was exceeded by one percent.

It is planned that 80 percent of the bread-grain consumption will be covered by domestic production and 20 percent by imports. At present, however, only 72.5 percent of the nationwide demand has been met by domestic purchases, so that the remaining 7.5 percent must be met either by additional domestic purchases or by imports.

It cannot be said that the failure of purchases was caused by lower morale of the masses of the farmers. On the contrary, morale is considerably higher than in the period of quotas, because under the contract system the farmer binds himself and each agreement is to a certain extent voluntary. Also, the derationing of flour products, bread, and white baked goods eliminated the greediness of selling on the black market. Therefore, the causes of nonfulfillment must lie elsewhere.

These are, first of all, the sabotage intentions of some individuals. Another cause is the influence of animal production on grain deliveries, because the production tasks and animal prices have a bad effect on plant production. Also, the allotment of delivery tasks was badly or negligently carried out in many obec. It was not infrequent that some cultivators were assigned greater deliveries than could be produced under a normal crop, and the anticipated above-average output failed to be realized. On the other hand, some larger cultivators were assigned less than they should have been; their surplus quantities have been consumed or continue to be stored by them.

The nonfulfillment of the planned grain-purchase program can in no way menace our supply situation because of the unlimited possibilities of bread-grain imports from the people's democracies. Caution in imports is exercised only because it is desired to import more valuable foodstuffs, such as butter, fats, eggs, etc.; grain imports are considered unnecessary, since grain exists at home.

GIVES FIGURES ON MILK PRODUCTION -- Hospodar, No 52, 29 Dec 49

The State Statistical Office has published in its Statistické Informace, Series V, No 34, statistics concerning the production and delivery of milk during the third quarter of 1949.

Total milk production in the Republic amounted to 7,782,789 hectoliters, which means that 4.4 liters of milk were produced per cow per day, specifically 4.6 liters in the Czech Provinces and 4.1 liters in Slovakia. A total of 6,991,155 hectoliters were milked in the Republic, which means that 4.1 liters were milked per cow per day in the Czech Provinces and 3.6 liters in Slovakia. A total of 1,899,805 hectoliters of milk were left to farmers in the Czech Provinces, that is, 1.5 liters per cow per day. In Slovakia, 1,579,401 hectoliters, that is, 3.1 liters per cow per day, were left to farmers. The farmers delivered 3,241,068 hectoliters to dairies in the Czech Provinces and 270,880 hectoliters in Slovakia. Farmers in the Czech Provinces delivered 2.6 liters per cow per day; farmers in Slovakia, only half a liter per cow per day.

Whereas Slovakia produces 26.7 percent of the nationwide milk output, it delivers only 7.7 percent of the total collection to collecting points. On the average, half of the milk in the Republic remains with farmers and half goes to collecting points for the use of consumers. In the Czech Provinces, farmers retain only 37 percent of the milk and deliver 63 percent. In Slovakia, farmers retain 85.4 percent of the milk and deliver 14.6 percent.

- 2 -

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## LISTS STATISTICS ON ANIMAL SLAUGHTER -- Hospodar, No 52, 29 Dec 49

A total of 393,161 beef cattle were slaughtered from the beginning of 1949 until the end of October 1949. This compares unfavorably with the 467,562 beef cattle slaughtered in 1948. The above count does not include calves, of which 323,150 were slaughtered from January to October. This figure again compares unfavorably with the 463,919 calves slaughtered during the same period of 1948.

From the beginning of 1949 to the end of October 1949, 1,119,466 pigs were slaughtered commercially, that is, 421,026 pigs more than in 1948, when only 698,440 pigs were slaughtered. A total of 788,729 pigs have been slaughtered for home use in 1949 as compared to 779,946 in 1948. Altogether, 1,908,195 pigs have been slaughtered in 1949, that is, 438,709 more than in 1948, when only 1,468,486 pigs were slaughtered.

## OVER MILLION COWS IN JULY 1949 -- Hospodar, No 52, 29 Dec 49

The number of cows in Czechoslovakia was highest on 1 January 1938, when there were 2,447,049 cows. During the war, the number fell to 2,002,670, that is, by 445,279 head, or 18.2 percent.

It continued to decline after 1945 and, after the drought of 1947, it reached its lowest point on 1 January 1948, when there were only 1,361,853 cows, that is, 586,096 head, or 23.0 percent, less than in the prewar period. On 1 July 1949, there were 1,906,357 cows, that is, 21.7 percent less than on 1 January 1938.

The average daily milk output per cow in the Ceskoslovenske Statni Statky (Czechoslovak State Farms) state enterprise reached 5.28 liters in 1949, but some plants produced over 10 liters per cow per day. The enterprise desires to reach an average daily output of 6.5 liters per cow in 1950, so that the yearly milk production of the enterprise would increase by over 12 million liters. The average daily milk production in the entire country is now 3.6 liters per cow.

Additional large amounts of dried whole milk will be imported soon. This will be distributed to consumers on ration cards as a substitute (in proportion of one to ten) for the fresh two percent equalized milk whenever there appears a local shortage of fresh milk for technical reasons.

According to the State Statistical Office, the average beer consumption per inhabitant amounted to 6.12 liters in the first half of 1949. It amounted to only 5.28 liters during the first half of 1948.

## OPENS NEW POULTRY SLAUGHTER HOUSE -- Hospodar, No 3, 19 Jan 50

The Madeta dairy plant in Tabor has put into operation a new poultry slaughter house, the only one of its kind. The new establishment is equipped with a place for slaughtering poultry, a large and bright place for plucking, places for dressing, shipping, and refrigeration, offices, places for drying feathers, feed and packing storerooms, and all kinds of modern social installations.

A total of 1,847 large pig-fattening centers, including 1,177 under the Czechoslovak State Farms, had been put into operation in the Republic by the end of November 1949. The large fattening centers already in September 1949 were covering 36 percent of the entire demand for pork, and their share is rising.

- 3 -

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Only 4,144 quintals of honey were produced in the Czech Provinces in 1948. This compares unfavorably with the 10,771 quintals produced in 1947 and 29,390 quintals produced in 1937. Slovakia produced 6,480 quintals in 1948 as compared to 7,309 quintals in 1947 and 14,507 quintals in 1937. Before the war, therefore, the output of honey in the Czech Provinces exceeded the output in Slovakia by 15,000 quintals, but in 1948 Slovakia produced 2,346 quintals more than the Czech Provinces.

The Ministry of Food has released 50 tons of poppy seed for bakers and 75 tons for factory kitchens at a price of 1,700,000 crowns per 100 kilograms. The wholesale price for factory kitchens is 13,700 crowns per one kilogram.

The following amounts of grain had been purchased out of the 1949 harvest in Czechoslovakia by 7 January 1950: 55,800 carloads of wheat (87 percent of plan), 60,351 carloads of rye (101 percent), 27,314 carloads of barley (74 percent), 9,040 carloads of oats (68 percent), and 1,754 carloads of corn.

The export of poppy seed is carried out by the monopoly company Oleaspol, which handles all foreign trade in oil raw materials.

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